Spring 2019

Department of History

GRADUATE
Course Description Guide

University of Massachusetts
Department of History
Graduate Course Description Guide
Spring 2019

Advanced undergraduates are invited to inquire about enrolling in graduate courses. Such enrollment depends on the permission of individual instructors who should be contacted directly. Questions can also be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Anna Taylor, at annat@history.umass.edu.

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You may take two courses outside the department for degree credit. Check Spire to see graduate course offerings beyond our department. Students often find relevant courses in Anthropology, English, the W.E. B. Du Bois Department of African American Studies, Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, Public Policy, and other programs around campus.
History 597
Under the University Numbering System, M.A. students wishing to enroll in an upper-level undergraduate course (at UMass or on one of the Give College campuses) may do so under the special topics number, History 597, with permission from the instructor and also with the understanding that instructors will require additional work of graduate students in those courses. signed by the faculty member teaching the course (turn this in to Mary Lashway in Herter 612). Check SPIRE for the listings of undergraduate courses.

There are forms available in Herter 612 describing the additional work to be bperformed for graduate credit; these must be signed by the instructor. Students will be responsible for discussing the course requirements with instructors. Please see the Graduate Program Assistant about registration to ensure that a grade will be submitted for you at the end of the semester. Only two 597 courses may count as topics courses towards completion of the M.A. degree.

History 696 or 796 (Independent Study)
Students may enroll in independent studies as either History 696 (reading independent study) or History 796 (research/writing independent study) with a faculty member overseeing the plan of study.

To enroll in History 696 or 796 pick up an independent study form from Mary Lashway in Herter 612. This form must be filled out including name, student number, course number (696 or 796), credits, a detailed description of the plan of work for the independent study (e.g. research paper, book reviews, historiography, essays, etc.), and signed by the professor overseeing the independent study. After it has been filled out and signed it needs to be returned to Mary Lashway to be entered on Spire. Only two independent studies may be counted towards completion of the M.A. degree.

Scheduled Courses:

601 European Historiography
Jennifer Heuer
Monday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This course is designed to introduce you to some of the most exciting and influential historical writing on modern Europe. We will look at different ways of approaching history pioneered by European histories, from relatively classic engagements with "history from below" to very recent work on ideas of the self and histories of emotion. Our topics can range from the transatlantic circulation of revolutionary ideas to collaboration and resistance under fascism, and from the development of ethnic and national identities to the dynamics of work and consumer society and relationships between imperialism, gender, and sexuality.
This class meets the historiography requirement for history graduate students. Those from other fields and disciplines are also very welcome; many have found the class useful. Please contact me if you have any questions!

662 Museum/Historic Site Interpretation
David Glassberg
Thursday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This course is designed to engage theory and practice in equal parts. Seminar discussion will explore issues involved in the interpretation of objects and landscapes in museum and historic site settings, while visits from area professionals and field trips to sites in the region will sharpen our ability to understand and evaluate interpretive practice. Over the course of the semester students will develop hands-on skill as they devote their energies to a field project for a local institution. By the end of the semester, students will be familiar with the literature of museum and historic site interpretation, including comprehensive and long-term interpretive planning, formative and summative evaluation, and exhibition design and assessment; they will also have cultivated specific skills necessary for the effective interpretation of objects, buildings and landscapes.

This particular semester, one group of students will be collaborating with students in public history programs across the US and overseas to develop a traveling exhibit illustrating various aspects of climate change and environmental justice. Our "local story" will investigate how a public school in a largely Latino neighborhood in the North End of Springfield came to be built on an environmentally dangerous site 40 years ago, and how local community organizations have been fighting since then for a safe and healthy place for their children to attend school. A second group of students will be working with Clinton Church Restoration in Great Barrington on the development of a temporary outdoor exhibit tracing the history of the church and plans for its restoration. Depending on enrollment, it is possible that a third group project will be developed in conjunction with a local historical institution.

692F 19th Century U.S. Historiography
Sarah Cornell
Tuesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This graduate seminar examines key historical events, issues, and people in the nineteenth-century United States. Readings will cover a wide range of topics, including presidential politics and the two-party system; slavery and abolition; citizenship and suffrage; the Second Great Awakening and social reform movements; Indian Removal; westward expansion and the U.S.-Mexico War; the Civil War and Reconstruction; and immigration, industrialization, and labor. Readings will introduce students to a variety of methodological approaches as well as key historiographic debates and trends in this field. This seminar is designed to help prepare students for an exam field in 19th-century U.S. history as well as related fields such as U.S. women's history.
692AP  US Cultures and Conflicts in the Asian Pacific
Garrett Washington
Tuesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

In this graduate seminar students will examine the relationship between the United States and their Asian Pacific neighbors since 1800. The course will begin by introducing students to key themes, theoretical frameworks, and chronologies relevant to the United States’ diplomatic relations with Japan, China, Korea, Hawaii, the Philippines, and Vietnam. We will then explore the transnational cultural histories of the US with each of these countries. Through the lenses of gender, race, religion, and education students will explore the important role that individual actors, organizations, and ideas have played in connecting the US and the Asia Pacific. This approach aims to complicate students’ understanding of what constitutes transnational history and familiarize them with less traditional categories of historical analysis. The second half of the course will be devoted to the composition of an original research paper that incorporates significant primary and secondary sources.

693F  Empire and Nation
Priyanka Srivastava
Wednesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This graduate seminar explores the history and historiography of British Empire in India from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries. We will discuss how Britain derived power, profit, and glory from its South Asian colony and how the colonizers deployed a range of ideologies and tactics to establish and sustain their dominance over India. We will also examine the ways in which caste, class, gender, and ethnicities informed the ideologies and practices of anti-imperialist nationalism(s). Readings will cover a wide range of topics including the workings of colonial economy, indentured servitude; the opium trade; colonial knowledge and power systems, British rule and gender relations; the Mutiny of 1857, Gandhian and subaltern strategies of resistance, and the partition of India in 1947. Our study of each of these topics would pay critical attention to the shifts and gaps in historiography.

This seminar is designed to prepare students for exam fields in British Empire, Economic History, as well as related fields such as Global or Comparative history, and Transnational Women’s history. Prior knowledge of Indian history is neither required nor assumed for this course.

698S  Museum Studio
Marla Miller

Museum Studio is a 1 or 2 cr (students choose which level) opportunity for students to contribute to local museum practice while developing professional skills and resume-relevant experience. In Spring 2019, the Studio will be held in partnership with the Hadley Farm Museum; students will gain experience in cataloging and collections management while documenting the museum's collections. Students in the course will participate in 2 workshop
sessions at the top of the semester to learn about cataloging and collections management systems in general, and the HFM collections in particular. The balance of the required course hours will be spent as students work independently to catalog a set of objects (of their choosing) in the collection. The course will conclude with a capstone session in which their work is presented to the HFM board.

The following courses are undergraduate courses in which seats have also been reserved for graduate students with an interest in this topic. Graduate enrollment is capped at 8 for these courses.

**697AA  Theory & Method of Oral History**  
Samuel Redman  
Tuesday/Thursday, 1:00pm-2:15pm

This course introduces students to the Theory and Methodology of Oral History. Oral history is an approach to studying the past using carefully researched, recorded, interviews documenting firsthand accounts. In this course students will learn about the history of oral history, current approaches to the field, and conduct their own oral history interviews.

**Additional Course Options**  
— enrollment requires instructor permission

You may take two courses outside the department that will count toward your degree. Below are several that may be of interest to you. As always, please refer to SPIRE for the most current class information, and contact the course instructor directly for permission to enroll. This is just a sampling of courses from outside the History Department that may be of interest to our graduate students. Please see Spire and/or departmental websites to see what other courses are available.